

LESSON 107

KING OF DISKS

LESSON 107

KING OF DISKS

"Prince of the Chariot of Earth"

Rules 20 degrees Aries to 20 degrees Taurus

A winged kingly figure seated in a chariot drawn by a bull. He bears as a crest the symbol of a winged bull. Beneath the chariot is land, with many flowers. In one hand he bears an orb of gold held downwards, and on the other a sceptre surmounted by an orb and cross.

The bull depicted here is synonymous with wealth, strength and fertility. The rich land below shows that it has received the benefit of his power, shown by the downward pointed orb which also has a link with the solar dieties and to a certain extent resembles Apollo in his sun chariot. The golden colour of the orb shows authority from the sun itself while the orb and cross he holds show authority over worldly dominion. Overall he is a worldly beneficent ruler, bestowing growth and prosperity to those in his Kingdom. His movements are slow but sure.

The background to the card is light green while the green colour of the land beneath him is a deep richer colour. The bull is the colour of Taurus (in the King Scale) while his reins are green. The helmet of the king is yellow, his crown is gold while the wings protruding from it are a yellow mauve combination. His wings are brilliant white and his skin is translucent green, with dark brown eyes and hair. Below him are 6 yellow daisies and 3 mauve trumpet flowers. They total 9, the number of Yesod, and the Vau aspect of tetragrammaton. The 6 daisies relate to Tiphareth and the solar power, while the 3 trumpet flowers show the hidden supernal of power, as yet unmanifested. The sceptre he holds is gold with a maltese cross coloured in the four earth colours of Malkuth (in the Queen Scale). It illustrates the divine right to rule the Airy part of earth. The chariot is the red colour of Aries (King Scale) with gold wheels. The scale armour he wears is yellow with mauve scale outlines as are his buskins. The emblem he wears has white wings with a black bulls head.

The King of Disks rules 20 degrees Aires to 20 degrees Taurus and shows the fiery aspect (the chariot) being slowly pulled by (Taurus) the bull over ground which shows fertility and growth of seasonal changes.

An alchemical aspect of this card is the evaporation to

reveal the water soluble salts and the patterns there formed. It alludes to alchemic seasonal timing and the falling of magical dew.

Vau of Heh(f) can be described as the growth aspect of the son developing independently from Heh, the mother. Here he establishes his independence and to a certain extent rivals Yod in power. The feminine Heh has produced the neutral formulae in Vau which is necessary for independence and growth. This shows the development of the neutral part of Heh in which movement is accepted from the receptive Heh(f). The Vau part of Heh(f) can only develop in a less denser area than Heh of Heh(f) and rises upwards to a lighter state, it is the neutral formation of the denser aspect of materialisation.

The Airy part of Earth is the intellectual or planned aspect of materialising. All ones efforts and theory now take root as the final formulae has nearly been completed. Here one starts to see the material result of long hard effort, but it is still not complete, as it still has with the airy part of its nature, seeking its place in the whole scheme of things, while the earthy part seeks after its comforts and takes everything in its stride, one day at a time. It shows overall, both intellect and effort balanced together in perfect harmony and a result that far outweighs the efforts one has put in to it.

DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF the Physical Body; Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

The King of Disks in this Fire house shows an individual who is strong and a real plodder in life as well as an active thinker with every move being carefully planned before being executed. The King possesses both power, authority and strength and considers all he owns is due to these three aspects of his personal philosophy. When encountering this individual be confident in him and he will be able to help. When he attacks a problem he will effect a successful outcome. If you are against the King you will not be successful but the indications are that you will join forces on the above issues.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce,

personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

The King of Disks in this Earth House shows an individual who builds up material possessions. He is a typical builder in both business and his personal life. He is the type of man who can build up a small business into a large concern. The King is also a person who keeps himself in shape through exercise. When dealing with the King one will find him very beneficial. If you join him you may grow beyond your wildest dreams in both personal stature and financial wealth. If you meet the King and he is in an opposite camp to you, then either change your direction or success will escape your grasp.

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

The King of Disks in this Air house shows an individual who is indecisive and as such causes his own obstacles. Confusion exists within him so that he is unable to make a decision and as such this makes him his own worst enemy. When dealing with the King in this position expect delays and obstacles in journeys and correspondence. It also shows someone about to venture into new areas and is very over cautious. The effect on you will be hold ups and financial loss. If you have time to spare then any dealing with the King in this position will pose no problem but if you have a deadline then one should avoid the King as he will not complete his side bargain on time.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The King of Disks in this Water House shows an individual who is growing and moving both in the physical and spiritual sense. Steady security, influence, money and power all portray the King in this position. When dealing with him one will find him a steady and dependable type of person who weighs matters carefully, but when he makes his mind up he is difficult to stop. Change, if any, will come slowly and after careful thought. He is an ideal friend and an almost unstoppable enemy.

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

The King of Disks in this Fire House shows an individual who is gracious and loving to his friends and family. He is not much of a gambler but when he does speculate he often does quite well. He is a person of enormous potentiality. When dealing with the King in any of the above matters one will find him enthusiastic and a person of great resource who appears to have the Midas touch. He builds, gives and instigates new ideas, structures and if you work with him there will be enormous changes involved over a long period.

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

The King of Disks in this Earth House represents an individual who has harmony in the work related environment. There is a sense of duty and service to others emerging from the King in this position. When dealing with him in the above matters one may find him in a profession where he can help others. He may be a bureaucrat or doctor but his ability to handle situations where helping others is involved will stand out. If you are seeking help then the King will give it and this, in most circumstances, will help you out of a bad situation.

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

The King of Disks in this Air House is an individual who puts personal gain and motivation first. As such, any liaison whether it be pleasure or business will only work while the other party continually gives. Because of this any partnership at this point will only be transitory as the well will run dry eventually. When dealing with the King, under the above matters, make sure that you do not partner him unless you are aware of what he is like and will do when dame fortune smiles against him. The best advice is that though he does attract wealth, his interest is soon lost in ventures. Short term investments however may prove productive.

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

The King of Disks in this water House shows an individual who is gaining wealth through his emotional outlets. This shows someone with a gut feeling or intuitive instinct that always manages to come out on top if he listens to his feelings. Generally the King has gain through the expense of others. He may be a lawyer or insurance person. Since his profession is an honourable one his gain through the loss of others is not incorrect or bad in any way, just a concept of timely application. When dealing with him you will gain financially but there is also the possibility of an emotional loss or upset, for this is a cycle of life.

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

The King of Disks in this Fire House shows an individual who has a very deep rooted sense of religious belief though it is not the be and end all of his philosophies though it is a necessary intrinsic quality of his personality. He appears to be very much a solid citizen and a good member of the community, so when dealing with him consider this point. He is not an extremist but likes things easy and clear. He is not a worldly traveller but when he does travel he goes the whole hog (overseas trips).

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

The King of Disks in this Earth House shows an individual who has attained much of what he has looked for in life. Notoriety has given him a place in life that has enabled him to accumulate a great deal of wealth. The King is likely to be in a top management position. When dealing with him one can expect help and possibly a great deal of material wealth as well as power and authority. The King speaks and directs from a prime position, it shows a man near or at the pinnacle of his power.

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

The King of Disks in this Air house shows an individual who has an attitude problem. His ideals, and his outlet for them, are

being interfered with by some sort of control or regulation. This distorts his original intentions to the point where he is not satisfied with the end result. When dealing with him caution is required. What you see is not what you get. You have an over qualified man for a menial task. Because of a communication breakdown, dealing with the King will cause many problems. You may get the result you require but the obstacles in your way may cause you to ask, is it worth it.

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

The King of Disks in this Water House shows an individual who has a great concern for the welfare of others. Hence his actions continually improve the life of those less fortunate whom he comes into contact with. His outlet is an emotional one but the benefits he gives are tangible assets that people can use immediately. When dealing with the King in this position one will undoubtedly receive his assistance on many different levels and ones life style should improve drastically for the better. One may in fact come into a windfall due to another's good fortune being dispersed to others, with possibly you among the group. Inheritance is also likely.

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MEDITATION ON THE KING OF DISKS:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail: Each symbol and image. Study the colours. Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations. Write down your overall impression.

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exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

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LESSON 108

PRINCESS OF DISKS

LESSON 108

PRINCESS OF DISKS

"Princess of the Echoing Hills; Rose of the Palace of Earth"
 Rules North Pole to 45 degrees Lat, and from
 0 degrees Aries to 30 degrees Gemini Long.

A strong beautiful Amazon figure with rich brown hair, standing on grass or flowers. A grove of trees is situated near her. Her form suggests Hebe, Ceres and Persopine. She wears a winged rams head as a crest, and wears a mantle of sheep skin. In one hand she carries a sceptre with a circular disk, in the other a pentacle similiar to the Ace of Pentacles.

The grass and flowers show that she lives in a fertile area while the grove of trees near her show her receptivity. The scepter and orb she holds is solar power, authority, while the disk shows she has control over the earth's elementary forces (of the power of the earth). The winged rams head shows increased fertility while the mantle she wears is likened to the legend of the Golden fleece, the end of the spiritual search, the Summon Bomnum.

The background of the card is pale green, the grass is a rich full green while the hills show combinations of dark shadings blending into a rich green, somewhat lighter than the grass but still a contrast to the light green sky. Her skin is also a translucent green. The trees have dark green leaves with dark trunks. Her sceptre is gold and the disk is the same as that of the Ace of Disks (green and black). Her mantle is white and her skirt is a green and black striped combination and her buskins are green with heavy black shadings. Her scaled belt is green with red outlined scales and the rams head emblem is white with golden horns. The flowers are also gold as is the crown and helmet. Her eyes are dark. Her 5 pointed crown is gold as is her helmet.

The Earthy part of Earth represents the optimum point of the consolidation of matter. It is a point of finality, for when this crystallisation occurs a transmutation will then take place which turns this hard substance into a receptive one. It is a situation of absorption, where the earth element absorbs all who come near it. People categorised under this heading work on a plane of fixed expression with materialistic pursuits. This stage will be a complete revision of their ideals as they discard their old ways and start new methods of development.

On the celestial sphere she rules from North Pole to 45 degrees Lat. and from 0 degrees Aries to 30 degrees of Gemini. She is the power of intuition, consciousness and self awareness. She represents personal expression.

The alchemical association to this card is the first and last matter, she can be the beginning or the end (Alpha et Omega), crystallisation.

Heh(f) of Heh(f) shows the consolidation of the feminine part of a new feminine growth and differs from Heh of Heh(f) in the concept of this being the conclusion of a project wherein the former it was the beginning. Here the Heh(f) shows crystallised matter of the feminine daughter who has completed a full cycle of development. In the next stage or cycle (outside of this one) she will wed Vau but in the existing order she is the last bastion of the family order and will eventually meet her own kind. To paraphrase an old cliché 'The King is dead, long live the King', the 'King' could just as easily be replaced with 'The Princess'.

DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF the Physical Body; Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

The Princess of Disks in this Fire House comes forth as an individual who is a kind and generous person, who is a doer rather than a thinker. Although her activities will be for the benefit of others self gain will be foremost in her thoughts. She is also a watcher who waits until the right moment before she steps forth to influence change for the better, when it is indicated. For those meeting her, under the above matters, one will find her influence is great and this can be used to help you. She is the spark or catalyst that will motivate you to act (correctly) and cause change in your life. You could possibly come into contact with a new idea or goal that will make changes in your life.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

The Princess of Disks in this Earth House shows an individual who is both kind and generous. She is also careful and courageous. Her influences in the above matters is growth, and bringing matters to reach their maximum potential. When dealing with the Princess in these issues one will find an almost already finished package being presented to you. She may encourage expansion but she is already producing so much that over expansion could develop and cause her problems. There is a period of immense wealth and development being guided by the Princess who encourages materialism.

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

The Princess of Disks in this Air House is not in a favourable position, for it shows an individual who finds her niche in intellectual stimulation but is forced to work and show herself in practical terms. The result of this causes disruption and awkwardness to say the least. When dealing with the Princess in this position one finds that any meetings, journees etc will be disrupted. There also seems to be a lack of identification with the problem or arrangement you are about to discuss. The advice here is put the discussion off till another time, perhaps an entire new perspective and movement to another field of endeavour is in order.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The Princess of Disks in this Water House shows an individual who is completing an important stage in her life. There seems to be a fullness associated to her, so much so that she may change completely to another area of life or thought now that the stage she is in comes to completion. When dealing with the Princess in the above matters you will find that her reactions to you are materially orientated. She possibly over identifies with wealth and if you do not possess this you will not be placed in a high standing with her. However she is receptive to your problems and will help if she can. Change is indicated if you do business with her which shows a possible move to a new area.

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

The Princess of Disks in this Fire house shows an individual who gives a great deal of time and effort to those she loves (i.e family). She is a reliable type of person who in a working situation comes to be relied on by many. Her mind is constantly creating new concepts (in the above matters) and this is one of her strengths. When dealing with the Princess of Disk in this position one will find her a person who not only understands your needs but can supply what you need. In many ways she is the ideal counsellor, broker or sales person though her motives for caring go far deeper than her professional level. It also denotes a future pregnancy.

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

The Princess of Disks in this Earth House represents an individual who has a harmonious and productive working life. In many ways she revitalises herself through her work, which has become her life. Any sickness she has is work related and will possibly be linked to something of a tumor type or a blood clot. Generally the Princess of Disks in this position shows good luck and good fortune. When dealing with her you will find that she will bring about financial rewards and help bring prestige to the working environment, is a 'plodder' at her work and because of this perseverance, she is nearly always successful.

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

The Princess of Disks in this Air House is an individual who tries to put ideas into practise that will not work through an existing framework. The intellectual approach in this instance is totally devoid of the reality of a situation. She has the skills but at this point she lacks the experience to carry out her wishes. When dealing with the Princess as a partner, be careful that she does not involve you in some of her schemes which could cause you some form of embarrassment. The Princess is apparently hungry for power and will sacrifice anything that gets in her way.

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and

finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

The Princess of Disks in this Water House shows an individual whose practical skills are expressed through an emotional outlet. She is a person who is involved with legal matters and disputes. When dealing with her one will find that they will benefit financially through an incurred loss, materially but not necessarily emotionally. Indications are, that one will receive unfavourable news from her but it may have large financial gain or loss. One may however, possibly gain in a partnership, from the monetary side of things. Overall it could be a period of sadness then sudden growth, in that order.

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

The Princess of Disks in this fire house shows an individual who is generally slow and thoughtful before acting, but who is put into a framework that calls for quick acting. In the first instance this is not necessarily bad and actually acts as a refining process to her nature. Also, it shows the Princess coming into a period of new growth (possibly after a stagnation period). When dealing with her in the above matters one will see her act and perform in areas that are foreign to her, this causes a general regeneration of past latent efforts. This shows the Princess moving to different areas and she becomes more communicative to those around her. She will grasp new meanings to things which bring a dynamic shift in consciousness.

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

The Princess of Disks in this Earth House represents an individual seeking recognition and material gains. It also shows a person who has attained or is in the middle of attaining these attributes. This is the true period for the Princess to consolidate and for her it is the attainment of many of her goals. When dealing with the Princess under these matters one will find her help and contacts invaluable to you. It would be unwise to go against her strength but if your ideas coincide with hers then there is virtually no limit to your gains, which like hers, will be considerable.

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

The Princess of Disks in this Air House shows an individual who takes the wrong attitude with people around her. Her pushy nature will not fit well into her existing framework (in the above matters). She can cause people many problems in groups and parties. The Princess of Disks is not one to follow the natural way of doing things and is very much a loner, taking what she needs from others when it suits her, giving no regard for their feelings. When dealing with her in the above matters, caution is urged for she will sacrifice you if you get in her way. She has a dominant personality, but this is mainly suppressed when working in the above matters.

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

Here the Princess of Disks is the lady of mystique to some and the amazon princess to others. Her dual personality fits into two ways of life. One of self sacrifice, a martyr for a cause, and the other to the search in to self knowledge and the mysteries. To give perspective and a happy balance to both is rare, but once attained the Princess of Disks type of person can be mistress of her own world. There is a strong interest into the arts of healing which can lead one into a a variety of fields. This card advises one to work along the law of nature for ones health. The key phrase for this position is "speak to the earth and it will teach you".

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MEDITATION ON THE PRINCESS OF DISKS:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail: Each symbol and image. Study the colours. Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations. Write down your overall impression.

---ooOoo---

exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

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LESSON 109

THE FOOL

LESSON 109

THE FOOL

The Tarot Trump 'Fool' in its Golden Dawn format is one of extreme complexity and depth. Aleph is the Hebrew letter associated to this card and by virtue of its shape relates to a plough. In agricultural terms the plough is used to till fertile ground so that crops would grow and hence feed the farmer. This is the cyclic existence where man provides nourishment for himself with the elements as his teacher. Also it must be remembered that a plough is a symbol of things to come, through patience and effort. In this card we see the tree blossoming, one of which the young child is about to pick. Here the child, a product of man, obtains nourishment from the blossoms, the product of the tree and hence the entire aspect of human existence is reduced to its primal concept. The child in fact stands in the shape of the letter Aleph to indicate that he, as man, will benefit from the fruits of the earth and as such stands for potentiality.

The symbolic shape of the child is also reminiscent of the fylfot, which is the instigator of the powerful currents whirling off into the logos. This current, represented by the child as a combined force, is the Gasgillum or 'wheels'. It is through Chokmah towards the brilliance of Kether that the child looks to discover the cause of its own ignorance.

The geometric shape of the blossoms of the tree is that of the main stars of the constellation of Lepus the Hare. Of this, Ptolemy says that the stars of Lepus are like those of Saturn and Mercury, giving a quick wit, timidity, circumspection, fecundity and defiance. The magical influence of this constellation is madness. Some of the stars are Nibal (the mad), Rakis (the bound) and Sugia (the deceiver).

The nakedness of the child shows his exposure to the elements, relying on nothing but divine innocence which holds the wolf in check.

The tree and leaves are painted in the colour of Pale Yellow of the King Scale which is also analogous to Atziluth. This reflects the symbolic structure that the child must grasp, before he can transcend to a higher state of awareness by eating the forbidden fruit, or blossoms (shaded in the complementary Violet). For united with the blossoms its secret (forbidden knowledge) will be released. The wolf is coloured in the Pastel

Grey of the Queen Scale and represents the negative area of the card being held under restraint. The madness under control is also a main point of difference from the Fool when associated to other tarot decks, though it is still there, lying dormant for the right trigger. The sky is coloured Greenish Grey of the Prince Scale and shows the limitless concept of the intellect and also the astral light, that area where karmic patterns are formed. Here, rather than reach for the sky the child has opted for growth through the organised structure of the tree. The child is painted in the colour of the Princess Scale, Pale Greenish Grey rayed with Yellow, as is the ground also. The whole concept is the pale yellow of the tree reflecting on the child and the terrain.

The child is here the protoplasm known as man which in archetypal terms is the infant state, a universal concept for anything just born. It is here, more than any other card, that the hope for the future in terms of potential growth is shown. But there are also dangers as well; the negative aspect of this theme, so aptly described by Carl Jung, is that the dog and the youth represent madness. This hits extremely close to home with the Order concept of this card, though there are a few vital differences. The wolf is the negative aspect of the unconscious which is held in check with a leash by divine innocence of the child, showing that he is under the protection of the godhead in Kether, before he manifests to maturity. The Order influence of this card when compared to other decks is 'control by will'.

Carl Jung noted four archetypal concepts relating to the child myths which have a direct bearing on this card.

1. The abandonment of the child: the dangers the child is exposed to after its birth.
2. The invincibility of the child: an aspect of survival against all odds with divine help.
3. The hermaphroditism of the child: this shows the pre-sexual state of the child, implying innocence.
4. The child as the beginning and the end: the pre-conscious state of man, his beginning.

The psychological mode of consciousness that this card represents shows the awakening, when one has completely broken through old structures and now find themselves in an entirely new area of development. In many respects the esoteric concept of illumination applies here, as a state of superconsciousness. It shows a complete remodelling of the psyche, hence the old saying

'like a new born babe' can be equated with this Trump. This state of mind goes with tremendous intuitive insight that in many cases can defy reasonable explanation.

The old title of this card was 'Spirit of Air' when the trump was associated to the element of Air. The new title given here is the 'Spirit of the Awakening'. This refers to the young child, as humanity, starting to realise the presence of the powers beyond as the dawning of a new Age approaches.

By numbering the first Trump zero, one has a near perfect balance of infinity. Zero is the unexpressed monad while the monad is the sum total expressed. This shows not only potential growth but growth itself in the first stage of manifestation - a blueprint of the Microcosm. As a glyph, zero is circular and cyclic in nature and is the point between birth and death. In ancient cultures the circle was used to symbolise the egg, the divine spark descended into matter, but still unexpressed until birth. By numbering the Fool zero, one shows the divine seed in an unmanifested form. In Kabbalistic terms, zero would be the Zelem, the hidden spark behind the phases of the Kabbalistic Soul.

Zero is also perfection and is associated to the Divine because of its perfect symmetrical form which we, as man, cannot hope to understand its fullest meaning. For once we understand it, it is corrupted because of our own imperfect comprehension. The Fool in this context is very much the epitome of zero for he has reached the scope of human expression (by way of ascent) to understand. From this context we can begin to note that the viewpoint of the card and not the card itself is the thing most likely to be corrupted.

The Fool in simple alchemical terms is the Spiritus Mercurius in its volatile state. It is not yet stabilised and hence takes on many of the characteristics of the Trump. Mercury is the untamed essence within the Primea Materia. We know it is there but in its volatile state it has not been yet released, though it has been isolated enough to know of its existence so that it can be identified, but still it is too volatile to use. The child of the wilds is very much in line with this theme and must be approached with caution. This Trump shows the extreme beginning of its manifestation, for any incorrect move on the part of the alchemist will activate the wolf, the negative aspect which has so far shown no sign of eruption or exploding. If approached badly the wolf will in fact bite the child and possibly devour it once the equilibrium of its world has been disturbed.

The tree in the card also represents the Oak, mother to the

infant mercury and symbol of the hidden knowledge. In earlier Tarot decks, the Fool was depicted as a Court Jester or a wandering vagabond. In both instances he often wore a multicoloured tunic. In alchemy, this multicoloured stage of the Great Work was often referred to as the Peacocks Tail - a complete cycle of the experiment. As the wandering fool he is analogous to Quicksilver, bitten by the rabid dog (the actions of a solvent), part of the stage of transmutation to a stabler self. It also should be noted that in a great many of these earlier tarot packs not all of the designers worked to a central alchemical theme where the Order pack does. Also, another reason why the Fool is Zero is that as Mercury, it is the divine spark behind every card. All the Trumps in fact show Mercury in different stages of its alchemical journey.

The Alchemical text "Inroitus Apertus" by Philaletha says: "This chameleon is the infant hermaphrodite who is infested from his very early cradle by the bite of the rabid Corascene dog, whereby he is maddened and rages with perpetual hydrophobia; nay, though of all natural things, water is closest to him and yet he is terrified of it and flees from it. O fate yet in the grove of Diana there is a pair of doves which assuage his raving madness (note: this aspect is missing from the G.D. theme of the card which hints that Mercurius is a bit more stable than previously thought). Then will be the impatient swarthy dog, that he may suffer no return to his hydrophobia and perish drowned in the waters (note: of the abyss or matrix - shown in the Fool of other packs) come to the surface and blows keep him at a distance and darkness will disappear. When the Moon is at full give him wings and he will fly away as an eagle leaving Dianas birds dead behind him".

The earlier astrological association to this card was the element of Air, but this was before the discovery of Pluto which was the last of the three outer planets discovered, which then could be balanced on the Paths of Aleph, Mem and Shin. Before this elemental symbols were used due to their association to the Sepher Yetzirah and the Mother Letters. These were hardly adequate and since the Elements were represented by the Court Cards the dual association to the paths was something of an overkill. The use of the association of Uranus to this card shows more of its depth and is more in line with the Order concept of its root meaning.

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## DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

The Fool in this position shows the beginning of an entirely new concept of development, far outstripping any previously motivated concept of thought, it is the dawning of a new age of development. Upheavals of a previous structure are apparent, which in macrocosm can apply to governments, corporate bodies etc; new thoughts and ideas are being studied with far reaching ramifications. In the microcosm, expect sudden and radical changes whether they be good or bad as this depends on your capacity to handle your environment. There are strong hints of patterns forming from karmic lines of development.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

The Fool in this position shows a lack of or disregard for the old ideas. There appears to be a total lack of impetus towards acquiring material values. Also, fluctuations appear on the material side of things, high gains and losses appear with frequent rapidity. The seemingly endless random patterns with their lack of staying power shows that this is bad for permanent situations, but good for the entrepreneur. Be prepared to meet the unexpected and try to have insurance against the negative aspects of this situation.

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

The Fool in this position shows an area of development almost without limit. The limits are there of course but they are beyond our comprehension to understand them at this point. There are also indications of movement, travelling with governmental or corporate backing. On the negative side of things one should watch for deceit or disruption of plans with little indication of result in the foreseeable future. On a mundane level problems develop that prevent any type of harmonious relationship.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in life's directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The Fool in this position shows development and experience continually being sort after in new areas of development. Possibly, mystical or psychic manifestations begin to emerge which cause a great deal of uncertainty and concern. Turmoils and upheavals are indicated with a heavy influence from those in power, who have held their positions for many years. In this instance we plan for the future, possibly to take over a growing concern on the death of another. There are also indications of matters coming to an abrupt and often dramatic conclusion, possibly from a foreign place.

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

The Fool in this position shows us the perfect example of the overkill situation and is not a good position for you to be in. The present situation eventually gives way to extremism which could easily be interpreted as a type of perversity. It shows strong independence and a genius for fulfilling potential drinking, gambling and other speculations without being able to stop until it has run its full cycle. There are also indications of attracting strong publicity which would bring a great deal of good fortune your way.

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; one's sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

The Fool in this position shows the susceptibility to strange and rare diseases that come upon one quite suddenly. These diseases are more often than not connected with the nervous system. The way to defeat this is to have a good diet, exercise and try to keep one's emotions intact. The Bach Flower remedies may help with the latter. There are also indications that those under you may try some form of deceit or trickery (possibly while you are convalescing). A great deal of correspondence is also indicated by the Fool in this House. Types of eccentric clothes are also apparent here.

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party;

competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

The Fool in this position indicates that a marriage or partnership may be under threat. This could probably be due to one partner being the complete opposite of the other. In the above matters there appears to be no smooth path and a constantly changing situation is apparent. There are also indications of the possible demise of one partner. The Fool also is an impulsive individual and because of this there arises marriage or partnership problems; more consideration should have been given.

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

The Fool in this position shows strong occult tendencies and a very intense study of mysticism etc. A preoccupation with those beyond the living also shows the Fool's strong spiritual drive. There are possibilities of money being received through legacies but there is little likelihood of holding on to what has been received. There is a good chance that taxes and debts will swallow the money up. The Fool is preoccupied with attaining access to the lofty heights of the astral and as such tends to neglect the physical.

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

The Fool in this position shows a person completely in touch with his inner feelings. He knows and recognises the dictates of his Higher self and strives to reach it through various modes of hermetic and religious philosophy. It shows more than an intuitive grasp of these feelings and clearly relates to use of a structure to attain this type of inner rapport. There are indications of prophecy (through dream or direct voice) and forewarnings (against possible accidents while travelling). Also there is a possible reform of a hermetic structure indicated, so that it will be more palatable.

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:



The Fool in this position shows public honour and status coupled with backing, but it also shows employees who are having a hard time of it. This indirectly affects your own course, the external ups and downs that will be part of your career. The advice here is to cut all ties with troublemakers and start fresh. It would be better to find employment in a huge governmental or corporate body that is not at the mercy of trends, as your current employer may be. Indications are clear that employment will give you problems. It would be best to find something that benefits from sudden changes.

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfillment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

The Fool in this position shows associations with eccentric friends of like mind. This can also become very volatile due to ego inflation, and because of these flare-ups are more than likely. At this time the group you are associated to are dealing with metaphysical subjects quite beyond the normal scope of thought. Some friends however will be of a low type of character though their spiritual experiences will be similar to your own.

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

The Fool in this position brings an isolation of sorts, and warns gainst deceit and treachery. There are strong undercurrents of secrecy that appear to be directed at you, so be cautious in your dealings. Also indications show an association to hospitals, prisons and the like in far flung areas. Narrow escapes manifest when it appears that you have come to the end of the road. Deal only with people who are "above board" and are "straight as a die", for any dealings with unsavoury individuals with the Fool in this position could be fatal.

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MEDITATION ON THE FOOL:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail: Each symbol and image. Study the colours.

Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations.
Write down your overall impression.

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exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An  
outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

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